

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

MOBILE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 2288 MOBILE. AL 36628-0001

OCT 1 6 2008

Executive Office

Mr. Dick Timmerberg Executive Director West Point Lake Coalition, Inc. P.O. Box 3677 LaGrange, Georgia 30241

Dear Mr. Timmerberg:

This is in response to your letters dated September 30, 2008 and October 8, 2008 requesting a one year variance to maintain West Point Lake at a winter pool of 633 MSL.

Our latest projection of the West Point lake elevation beginning with the current elevation and using 2007 drought condition inflows indicates that the lake level will be able to maintain the guide curve winter pool elevation of 628-ft through December 2008. Historically, inflow conditions in January will allow the reservoir to begin refilling toward the summer pool, even in drought conditions. Under our continued drought operation in accordance to the Woodruff Revised Interim Operations Plan (RIOP), we have the flexibility for temporary changes to the amount and timing of storage at West Point, but not for a "fixed level" of the lake. As we continue to monitor short and long-term rainfall forecasts, we will continue to evaluate the potential for temporary variances to the winter pool and plan to cautiously refill the lake earlier than the prescribed lake level guide curve as conditions allow. These analyses must evaluate impacts to other projects in the river system and include stakeholder feedback.

Sincerely,

FOR

Colonel, Corps of Engineers

District Commander